# Montana Comprehensive Assessment System (MontCAS, Phase 2)

Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT)

COMMON CONSTRUCTED-RESPONSE ITEM RELEASE
READING, GRADE 4
2008





OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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## Reading Session 1

Read this passage about making a bamboo strip book. Then answer the questions that follow.

#### Chinese Bamboo Strip Book

by Arlette N. Braman

It's hard to imagine a time when people didn't have books. The earliest humans had to paint pictures on cave walls. Later cultures used stone or clay tablets. The ancient Egyptians may have been the first people to make books by writing on scrolls made of **papyrus** (a grasslike plant whose stems are used as a writing material). The ancient Greeks are credited with making the first bound book, which had wooden boards for the covers.

The first people in China to leave written records lived during the Shang dynasty, from about 1766 to 1122 B.C. Writers made Chinese characters on strips of **bamboo** (a tropical woody grass with hard stems). Using a brush and ink, the writers started at the top of the strip and worked their way to the bottom. When there were enough strips to make into a book, the strips were put in order, with the first strip on the right and the last on the left. Then the strips were tied together with silk string or leather strips. The book could be rolled up for easy carrying.

Unfortunately, most bamboo strip books and written records decayed over time. Very few records about this period in Chinese history exist today. In A.D. 105, the Chinese invented paper and no longer needed to use bamboo to make books.

It's easy to make your own bamboo strip book using craft sticks instead of real bamboo.



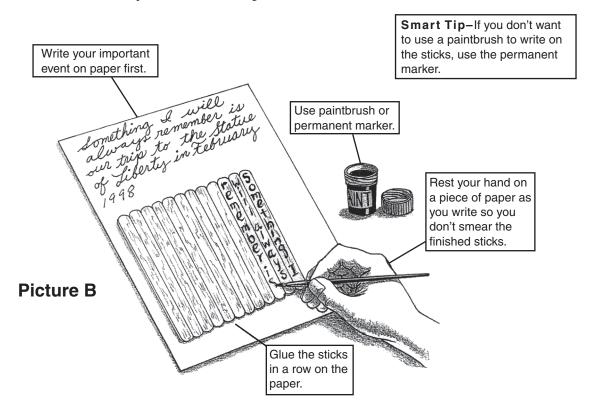
Picture A

#### Here's What You Need

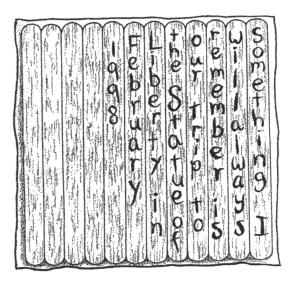
- glue
- 12 or more wooden craft sticks
- $\blacksquare$  8½-by-11-inch (21.5-by-28-cm) sheet of paper
- pencil
- small-bristle craft paintbrush
- black acrylic paint
- fine-tip permanent marker (optional)
- small piece of paper
- scissors

#### Here's What You Do

- 1. Since bamboo strip books told of Chinese life, why not record one important event in your life on your bamboo strip book. It should be about something you want to remember forever. Did you travel to another continent, get your black belt in karate, or win a contest you entered? Think about it.
- 2. Glue the wooden sticks in a row on the paper.
- **3.** While you're waiting for the glue to dry, write your important event on the paper. You can start like this: "Something I will always remember is . . ." Don't forget to record the date your event took place.



- **4.** *Print* your important event on the sticks. Use the brush and paint (like the Chinese). You can do it the way bamboo strip books were written—top to bottom, right to left—as shown. Start at the top of the right stick. When you get to the bottom of that stick, go to the top of the next stick. Continue until you are finished. Remember to leave a space between words.
- **5.** If you need more sticks, glue them on the paper. After you finish recording your event, cut around the outside of your bamboo strip book to get rid of the extra paper. Now an important event in your life has been recorded. Read your bamboo strip book to someone.



**Picture C** 

45. Suppose a friend is creating a bamboo strip book. What are **three** important things you should tell your friend about making the bamboo strip book? Use details from the passage to explain your answer.

#### **Scoring Guide**

Score	Description
4	Response provides a thorough (or complete) explanation of three important things you should tell your friend about making the bamboo strip book. Explanation includes specific, relevant details from the passage.
3	Response provides an explanation of three important things you should tell your friend about making the bamboo strip book. Explanation includes supporting details from the passage but lacks specificity, relevance, and/or development.
2	Response provides a partial explanation of three important things you should tell your friend about making the bamboo strip book. Explanation includes limited details from the passage and/or is partially correct.
1	Response makes a vague or minimal statement.
0	Response is incorrect or irrelevant.
Blank	No response.

#### **Scoring Notes**

- Choose an important event.
- Date the event.
- Print your event on the sticks.
- Keep your hand away from the sticks.
- Use the Chinese writing style.

#### Three important things you should tell your friend about making the bamboo strip book:

Choose an event that is important in your life to include on your bamboo strip book. It should be something that you will want to remember. Include the date of the event to remember when it happened. Make sure that you print the event on the sticks to read it easier. Use the Chinese style of writing by writing your event from top to bottom and from right to left.

While you record your event make sure that you keep your hand away from the writing on the sticks. Placing your hand on the paper underneath the sticks will keep you from smearing the paint or permanent marker.

my freind was making a pook I would tell her /h her. (Depend Deflat you have to write the event on the paper before witting it on the sticks.

2) That the Chinese wrote about special events in their lives that you can think of a event that you want to write.

3) That you have to write from top to bottom, and right to left.

right. Also he should leave spaces be tween the letters. And to remember the date.

That you need sticken glue papers

read more 600 kg edittion entrene Ment.

### **Acknowledgments**

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